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SUNDAY
AUGUST 23, 1953

Bright and cool. E. had a blazing fire in her room.

Marian and Ted Achilles, their daughter Anne, Anne Kuhn and John Hughes came to lunch.

In the last few days I've read the autobiography of CecileSorel (she insists much on her fatal beauty but when I knew her slightly in 1920 I did not perceive it), the biography of Ada Menken (whose appearance in tights strapped to a horse in her Mazeppa rôle fluttered the hearts of the males and earned her the diatribes of the puritans in the mid-nineteenth century), the Table Talk of Hitler (he was part genius and part lunatic if one judged only by this account), the revised edition of E. V. Lucas's "A Wanderer in Paris", and am still pegging away on the Federalist Papers, that fascinating treatise on the art of making constitutions.

We have been to Truffaut, the neighboring furnisher of garden adornments, and contracted for several single-ste dwarf boxes which will be encased this autumn in wooden containers and placed in part of the house.

The postal, telegraph and telephone services are due to start refunctioning today in almost full volume, so Monday should usher in a flood of communications.

We went to Louis XIV's vegetable garden this afternoon near the Pièce d'Eau des Suisses. Afterwards into the grandiose Church of St. Louis on the fine Place St. Louis. A kind young French couple, noticing us staring into their garden, invited us to see the ravishing exterior of their little Louis XIII house opposite the elegant facade of Mademoiselle de Montpensier's dwelling. Then we wandered at random down the Rue des Reservoirs, through the park and home, stopping for a moment to greet Jacques Allez, who was conducting his octogenarian mother on a tour of St. Germain, Marly, and Versailles.

All of us were back tonight on our occasional diet of broth and yoghurt.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY CKC DATE 7-1-81
□or XDS□EXT. DATE
REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS □
DECLASSIFIED☑ RELEASABLE☑
RELEASE DENIED□
FA or FOI EXEMPTIONS